

# Blum lectures against tobacco

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been a smoker, he could be here with us tonight," she told several hundred people gathered in the hospital's auditorium, which is named for Wallace. "Perhaps others, now, can learn about the dangers of smoking, through this chair."

The chair was appointed to

Dr. Alan Blum, a family physician and journalist who has lectured widely against tobacco. It is a passion, he said, that he learned from his father. "My father was out there, fighting tobacco in the years when fighting tobacco meant fighting everything from politicians to the media to organized baseball. The Dodgers were sponsored by Lucky Strike."

Blum most recently served as Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He was honored for his anti-tobacco activities with a Surgeon General's Medallion, presented by C. Everett Koop with a commendation for "dedication in curbing tobacco use nationally." He was also presented the first

Smoke Free American Award by the Rockefeller Research Institute.

Such a distinguished background will be a boon for the university, said Andrew Sorensen, president of the University of Alabama. "Celia Wallace is a wonderful friend of the university, and this will mean a lot toward the prevention of disease."

# Videotape captures it all

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"It's not illegal. It's part of a religious service. ... It was his own snakes that bit him," he said.

Authorities have videotapes of Saturday night's service but are not releasing them.

Brown, who had been preaching at a revival since last Wednes-

day, was known throughout the Southeast as an evangelist who had been handling snakes since he was 17. Brown's father also is a serpent-handling preacher.

Porter, who took home Brown's two snakes, said he plans to give them to Brown's brother, who lives in Newport, Tenn.

As the basis for their practice,

snake handlers cite Mark 16:17-18: "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

Sherbert, who said he has

been bitten 23 times and often attends the Jackson County church, doesn't believe Brown's death will faze members.

"I think they will be more careful about handling serpents. I think they will wait until the Lord moves on them," he said.

"A lot of people don't understand us. We are just normal people but we believe God's word."

# Defense: Police 'jumped to conclusions'

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er items. Investigators also found his blood at one scene, have witnesses placing him in the area, and found a knife and a bloody shirt in his home that link him to Mrs. Dukes' death, he said.

But those links are weak if considered with a "logical, open-minded approach," Doerr countered.

"Even before they had arrested Calvin Stallworth, police had decided to use him as a suspect," said Doerr, one of three court-appointed lawyers repre-

senting the defendant. "They jumped to the conclusion that Calvin Stallworth was involved in the killings. Then they began to accumulate facts, and if the fact didn't fit their theory, they discarded that fact."

He cited as examples two pieces of crime-scene evidence. When found, he said, Mrs. Dukes had a long hair wrapped around her finger that never was analyzed. And investigator's didn't find Stallworth's fingerprints at either store, he added.

Furthermore, Doerr said, witnesses provided other leads and

suspects — including a "white man with a 'Fu Manchu' mustache" and a black couple begging outside the store where Mrs. Morton died — who weren't pursued. And Stallworth's confessions were "psychologically coerced," he said, by investigators who questioned him for two days and threatened to harass his family.

The reason, Doerr said, was that police felt pressure to end the "reign of terror" that was keeping people out of Foley during the Christmas shopping season: "Everyone was scared.

People weren't going to the stores. People were scared to go to Foley."

A task force of about 100 officers from across the county and state assembled to investigate the murders of Mrs. Dukes on Dec. 4 in Dukes' Parkway Shell, and Mrs. Morton on Dec. 14 in Diamond Amoco. Stallworth was identified as a suspect through tips and arrested on a probation violation, police said, then charged with the two murders a day later.

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# Reward offered by FBI, DEA

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The FBI and the U.S. attorney's office declined comment Tuesday and no arrests have been made in the murder case.

The FBI and the Drug Enforcement Administration on Monday offered a rare \$20,000 reward for information leading to a conviction in Ms. Brown's murder. Anyone with information on the killing of Ms. Brown is asked to call 1-800-363-3985.

Mobile police had no comment on the Malone affidavit Tuesday.

Should someone connected to the drug case be arrested and convicted in Ms. Brown's killing,

the first death sentence in Mobile federal court could be imposed. In 1994, Congress expanded the number of crimes eligible for the death penalty from two to more than 60.

Ms. Brown, 45, was arrested May 5 in Florida in a rental car without tags. Her companion, Mack Thomas, 52, was driving. Police with drug-sniffing dogs found crack and arrested them, according to testimony. The case was transferred to their destination, Mobile.

Ms. Brown pleaded guilty in July and agreed to testify against Thomas. She did that and more.

At the trial, Ms. Brown said they were taking the crack to Ma-

lone. Calls from Ms. Brown's brother's telephone in Florida were traced to Malone's Body Shop on Houston Street in Mobile, the affidavit states.

Thomas, Ms. Brown's companion, told authorities he worked at the garage, according to the affidavit. He is also related to Malone; his sister, Mamie Floyd, is Malone's mother-in-law. Ms. Floyd was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison on drug charges last winter.

In addition, "Vivian Brown told (DEA agent Donald) Walton that Perry Malone utilized his pager to maintain contact with his drug trafficking associates," the affidavit states.

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